

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 SIG-02

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DRAFTED BY M:LSEAGLEBURGER:ML

APPROVED BY M - MR. EAGLEBURGER

S/S - MR. BORG

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FROM THE SECRETARY, INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AMGT, PFOR

SUBJECT: TRANSITION TO THE NEXT ADMINISTRATION

1. THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES IS A NON-PARTISAN ENTERPRISE. AMERICA'S ABIDING PURPOSE -- TO PRESERVE THE PEACE, ASSURE PROGRESS AND PROMOTE FREEDOM AND THE RIGHTS OF MAN -- IS SHARED BY ALL AMERICANS; ALL AMERICANS ARE DEDICATED TO IT. THE PROFESSIONALS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND THE FOREIGN SERVICE ARE A VITAL INSTRUMENT FOR REALIZING AMERICA'S GOALS ABROAD. I KNOW THAT THEY CAN BE COUNTED ON TO WORK WITH THE DEDICATION, PATRIOTISM AND ABILITY WHICH IS CHARACTERISTIC OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE AND THE OTHER PROFESSIONALS IN THE DEPART-
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MENT OF STATE. IN THE WEEKS AHEAD, THEY HAVE NO MORE

IMPORTANT TASK THAN TO ASSURE A SMOOTH TRANSITION.

2. I HAVE TODAY APPOINTED LAWRENCE EAGLEBURGER, DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY FOR MANAGEMENT, AS THE DEPARTMENT'S TRANSITION COORDINATOR, AND INSTRUCTED HIM TO ASSURE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE COOPERATE FULLY WITH THE PRESIDENT-ELECT'S TRANSITION TEAM WHEN IT IS NAMED, MAKING ITS FILES AND PERSONNEL AVAILABLE AS REQUESTED AND ASSISTING IN EVERY OTHER WAY.

3. OF COURSE, UNTIL JANUARY 20, 1977, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO REST WITH PRESIDENT FORD AND MYSELF. ALL FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THIS ADMINISTRATION WILL, IN THE TIME REMAINING TO IT, CONTINUE TO SUPPORT AMERICA'S FRIENDS AND RESIST ITS ADVERSARIES. NO NATION NEED FEEL ANY CONCERN THAT WE MIGHT FAIL TO MEET OUR COMMITMENTS; NO NATION SHOULD MISTAKENLY BELIEVE THAT THIS IS A TIME TO TEST AMERICA'S RESOLVE. WE INTEND TO TURN OVER A FUNCTIONING FOREIGN POLICY TO THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

4. DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD THE PRESIDENT-ELECT WILL BE FORMULATING HIS OWN POLICIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION AFTER HIS INAUGURATION. I REQUEST EVERYONE TO REMEMBER THAT IT WOULD BE A DISSERVICE TO HIM AND TO THE UNITED STATES TO SPECULATE TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS ABOUT THE POLICIES OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

5. ALL OF US MUST WORK TO ASSURE AN ORDERLY AND CREATIVE TRANSITION, ALWAYS KEEPING IN MIND THAT THE NEW ADMINISTRATION'S FOREIGN POLICY ACHIEVEMENTS WILL BE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF ALL OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THAT THE WORLD DEPENDS ON OUR PURPOSEFULNESS, STEADINESS AND UNITY. KISSINGER

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